

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE EXAMINING CORPS**

IN RE APPLICATION OF

DONALD LUTRARIO

FOR A

METHOD FOR MAKING A PIECE

OF SIMULATED STAINED-GLASS

1

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

2 Field of the Invention:

3 The present invention relates to a method. More particularly, the present invention
4 relates to a method for making a piece of simulated stained-glass.

5 Description of the Prior Art:

6 Numerous innovations for simulated stained-glass have been provided in the prior art
7 that will be described. Even though these innovations may be suitable for the specific
8 individual purposes to which they address, however, they differ from the present invention.

9 **FOR EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 3,382,134 to Powell teaches a
10 simulated Venetian glass product. A sheet transparent material is embossed onto a lead-
11 simulating frame , with the sheet extending forwardly into the opening from the rear of the
12 frame. Coloring material is deposited on the rear face of the sheet at each of the glass
13 simulated areas. A highly authentic Venetian glass product is achieved by fabricating the
14 transparent sheet with an irregular surface, and by attaching a translucent paper backing sheet
15 to the assembly.

1 **ANOTHER EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 3,619,456 to Taylor, Jr.
2 teaches an assembly made from plastic which appears to be of stained glass set in lead, and
3 the assembly can be made in any design that can be made by stained glass set in lead. The
4 primary method for making the assembly is to arrange horizontally grooved plastic cames on
5 a horizontal surface in the framework of the design desired, then to fill the design with a filler
6 material to the bottom of the grooves, then to place variously colored liquid plastics in the
7 design to fill it to the top of the grooves, next to cure the plastic, and finally to remove the
8 filler material. In one variation of the method, no filler material is used and the liquid plastic
9 fills the design from the bottom of the cames to the top of the grooves. When this variation is
10 used, the resulting assembly appears to be stained glass set in lead only when viewed from one
11 side.

12 **STILL ANOTHER EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 4,016,235 to Ferro
13 teaches a method of making simulated stained glass from moldable plastic material. One wall
14 of a die is formed with a series of interconnected recesses which border isolated areas, and the
15 isolated areas of the die are provided with random surface indentations. A sheet of plastic film
16 having a series of dark colored interconnected strips, corresponding in configuration to the
17 recesses in the die, and having a series of light colored zones of the same configuration as the
18 isolated areas of the die, is disposed on the die surface with the dark colored strips in precise
19 registry with the recesses of the die and the light colored zones in registry with the isolated
20 areas of the die. The plastic film is held against the die surface by a vacuum, and a liquid

1 thermoplastic resin is injected into the die cavity. The plastic film deforms under the heat and
2 pressure to depress the dark colored strips of the film into the die recesses and the
3 thermoplastic resin fuses to the plastic film to provide a simulated stained glass having raised
4 dark colored strips corresponding to the leaded strips of stained glass, and having light colored
5 areas corresponding to the panes of glass.

6 **YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 4,312,688 to Brodis *et*
7 *al.* teaches a method and apparatus for making simulated stained-glass uses an existing
8 surface. An outline of a given design is traced or drawn on the surface to be decorated.
9 Pressure-sensitive lead stripping is applied to the surface in registration with the outline
10 thereby delineating lead-stripped areas. The edges of the lead stripping are boned, sealing
11 same to the surface. Colored, plastic, thin-film stock is cut so as to be complementary in size
12 to a given lead-delineated area, and then applied thereto. The lead stripping resembles a frame
13 that appears to hold the thin-film stock, and it, in conjunction with the translucence of the thin-
14 film, produces an effect that closely resembles real stained-glass.

15 **STILL YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 4,335,170 to
16 Butler teaches a method of simulating stained and leaded glass windows including bonding
17 lead strips to a pane of glass or plastic to form design segments, and bonding coatings to the
18 pane coincidental with the design segments to simulate colored glass and the simulated stained
19 and leaded glass structure produced by the method.

1 **YET STILL ANOTHER EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 4,438,165 to
2 Butler that teaches simulated stained and leaded glass windows which include bonded lead
3 strips onto a pane of glass or plastic, forming design segments, and bonded coatings to the
4 pane coincidental with the design segments simulating colored glass, and to a method for their
5 preparation.

6 **STILL YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE**, United States Patent Number 6,117,504 to
7 Yoshikawa teaches a stained glass article of a three dimensional shape and a method for
8 producing the same. A glass plate is cut into glass pieces of a certain shape including a
9 pentagon member and a hexagon member. The hexagon member consists of one six-sided
10 irregular member and three four-sided irregular members. The glass pieces of the certain
11 shape are united together via a bonding agent to obtain the three dimensional stained glass
12 imitating the shape of a soccer ball. The glass piece has a curved surface whose radius of
13 curvature is set substantially equal to the radius of the soccer ball.

14 It is apparent that numerous innovations for simulated stained-glass have been
15 provided in the prior art that are adapted to be used. Furthermore, even though these
16 innovations may be suitable for the specific individual purposes to which they address,
17 however, they would not be suitable for the purposes of the present invention as heretofore
18 described.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

2 **ACCORDINGLY**, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method for
3 making a piece of simulated stained-glass that avoids the disadvantages of the prior art.

4 **BRIEFLY STATED**, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method for
5 making a piece of simulated stained-glass that includes the steps of providing a vacuum mold
6 die having a working surface, forming a series of completely flat and smooth, raised and
7 elongated areas on the working surface of the vacuum mold die, laying a sheet of acrylic or
8 plastic over the working surface of the vacuum mold die, vacuum forming the sheet of acrylic
9 or plastic so as to form a sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic having recessed flats on
10 a mold-facing surface thereof and raised flats on an ambient-facing surface thereof that oppose
11 the recessed flats, by virtue of the series of completely flat and smooth, raised and elongated
12 areas on the working surface of the vacuum mold die, glueing pressure sensitive self-stick lead
13 strips to the recessed flats on the mold-facing surface of the sheet of vacuum formed acrylic
14 or plastic and the raised flats on the ambient-facing surface of the sheet of vacuum formed
15 acrylic or plastic, and forming the piece of simulated stained-glass.

16 The novel features which are considered characteristic of the present invention are set
17 forth in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its construction and its
18 method of operation, together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will be best

- 1 understood from the following description of the specific embodiments when read and
- 2 understood in connection with the accompanying drawing.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

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The figures of the drawing are briefly described as follows:

3

FIGURES 1A-1D are a process flow chart for the method of making a piece of simulated
stained-glass of the present invention.

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LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS

2

UTILIZED IN THE DRAWING

- 3 **10** method of present invention for making piece of simulated stained-glass **12**
- 4 **12** piece of simulated stained-glass
- 5 **14** vacuum mold die
- 6 **16** working surface of vacuum mold die **14**
- 7 **18** texture of piece of stained glass **20**
- 8 **20** piece of stained glass
- 9 **22** water glass
- 10 **24** granite glass
- 11 **26** beveled diamonds
- 12 **28** series of raised and elongated areas on working surface **16** of vacuum mold die **14**
- 13 **30** series of completely flat and smooth, raised and elongated areas on working surface
14 **16** of vacuum mold die **14**
- 15 **32** acrylic jewels
- 16 **34** glass
- 17 **36** any other type item
- 18 **38** sheet of acrylic or plastic
- 19 **40** sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic

- 1 **42** recessed flats on mold-facing surface **44** of sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic
- 2 **40**
- 3 **44** mold-facing surface of sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic **40**
- 4 **46** raised flats on ambient-facing surface **48** of sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic
- 5 **40**
- 6 **48** ambient-facing surface of sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic **40**
- 7 **50** pressure sensitive self-stick lead strips

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

3 Referring now to **FIGURES 1A-1D**, which are a flow chart of the method for making
4 a piece of simulated stained-glass of the present invention, the method of the present invention
5 is shown generally at **10** for making a piece of simulated stained-glass **12**.

6 The method 10 comprises the steps of:

7 **STEP 1:** Provide a vacuum mold die 14 having a working surface 16 simulating a
8 texture 18 of a piece of stained glass 20, wherein the texture 18 of the piece of
9 stained glass 20 is at least one of water glass 22, granite glass 24, and beveled
10 diamonds 26.

11 **STEP 2:** Form a series of raised and elongated areas **28** on the working surface **16** of the
12 vacuum mold die **14** that are completely flat and smooth so as to form a series
13 of completely flat and smooth, raised and elongated areas on the working
14 surface **16** of the vacuum mold die **14**.

15 **STEP 3:** Lay at least one of acrylic jewels **32**, glass **34**, and any other type item **36** on
16 the working surface **16** of the vacuum mold die **14**.

- 1 **STEP 4:** Lay a sheet of acrylic or plastic **38** over the working surface **16** of the vacuum
2 mold die **14**.

- 3 **STEP 5:** Vacuum form the sheet of acrylic or plastic **38**, with the at least one of the
4 acrylic jewels **32**, the glass **34**, and the any other type item **34** being attached
5 to, by being sucked into, the sheet of acrylic or plastic **38** for added effects, so
6 as to form a sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic **40** having recessed flats
7 **42** on a mold-facing surface **44** thereof and raised flats **46** on an ambient-facing
8 surface **48** thereof that oppose the recessed flats **42**, by virtue of the series of
9 completely flat and smooth, raised and elongated areas on the working surface
10 **16** of the vacuum mold die **14**.

- 11 **STEP 6:** Glue pressure sensitive self-stick lead strips **50** to the recessed flats **42** on the
12 mold-facing surface **44** of the sheet of vacuum formed acrylic or plastic **38** and
13 the raised flats **46** on the ambient-facing surface **48** of the sheet of vacuum
14 formed acrylic or plastic **38**.

- 15 **STEP 7:** Form the piece of simulated stained-glass **10**.

- 16 It will be understood that each of the elements described above, or two or more
17 together, may also find a useful application in other types of constructions differing from the
18 types described above.

1 While the invention has been illustrated and described as embodied in a method for
2 making a piece of simulated stained-glass, it is not limited to the details shown, since it will
3 be understood that various omissions, modifications, substitutions and changes in the forms
4 and details of the device illustrated and its operation can be made by those skilled in the art
5 without departing in any way from the spirit of the present invention.

6 Without further analysis, the foregoing will so fully reveal the gist of the present
7 invention that others can, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt it for various
8 applications without omitting features that, from the standpoint of prior art, fairly constitute
9 characteristics of the generic or specific aspects of this invention.